

# When Covenants Collide

Learning to understand the Bible is a lot like learning how to swim: you never know how well you're doing until you jump into the deep end. Anybody can appreciate John 3:16, but when you wade into the deeper waters of Scripture, it's easy to feel like you're drowning. So it is with the middle section of Hebrews (chapters 5-10), which holds some of the most complex concepts in the Bible. Join us Sundays in October at The Story as we take a deep dive in search of profound truths about Jesus, the Gospel, and the shortfalls of human religion.

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## **October 5, 2025 - Part 1 - When It's Time to Grow Up**

Think of a time when you had to “grow up” and move from one phase of life to another.

**How did you know it was time to change? What makes growing up so hard?**

**Hebrews 5:11** - We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand.

**What is the writer of Hebrews referring to when he says “this” (see verses 8-10)? Why was this concept hard to make clear to the audience?**

**Have you ever found yourself stuck on a surface-level understanding of the Bible - avoiding the harder, deeper parts of Scripture for lack of understanding? *What's wrong with staying on the surface?***

**Hebrews 5:12-14** - In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

**What is the reason for the author's frustration with his audience?**

**The author's point hangs on the claim that they “ought to be teachers.” Does this mean that every Christians is called to teach? If not, what does it mean?**

**Hebrews 6:1-3** - Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting, we will do so.

### **“Elementary Teachings about Christ” (aka *Spiritual Breastmilk*)**

- “Repentance from acts that lead to death” - *Are my sins really forgiven?*
- “Faith in God” - *Do I really believe in God?*
- “Instruction about cleansing rites” - *Should we follow the letter of the Law?*
- “Laying on of hands” - *How are we supposed to pray for each other?*
- “Resurrection of the dead” - *Did Jesus really rise again?*
- “Eternal judgment” - *Is there really a Heaven and a Hell?*

What's the problem with asking fundamental questions like these?

In Hebrews 6:6, the preacher declares that when believers waver and waffle in doubt about such elementary teachings, it's as if "they are crucifying the Son of God all over again." What did he mean by this?

**Heb 6:9-12** - Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are convinced of better things in your case - things having to do with salvation. God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

What is the warning at the heart of this preacher's concern for his congregation?

Has spiritual laziness been an issue for you in your walk with Jesus? How (if at all) has it kept you from developing into spiritual maturity?

Perhaps you've come to a fork in the road. Before you are two paths: one is the old, well-worn, familiar path you've been on. The other is an unknown, risky journey of faith. Which will you choose? And what real-life choices will that decision require of you this week?

*Your notes:*



### **OVERFLOW is Tonight!**

Overflow is a night where 6th-12th grade students worship together, hear a message that speaks to where they are in life, and enjoy high-energy activities. Overflow takes place every first Sunday of the month at 6:30pm. We hope your student can join us tonight in The Loft!



### **New Class Starts Wednesday**

*The Unpardonable Sin & The Parables of Jesus* is a four week seminary-style lecture series that will walk us through some of the most pivotal teachings that shaped the early church. Starts Wednesday, October 8 at 6:30pm. Register on: **[thestory.church/groups](https://thestory.church/groups)**



### **Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsals Start Today**

Registration for our annual Christmas Choir for PreK - 6th is open! Rehearsals take place on Sundays at 12:30pm starting today, October 5. Visit **[thestory.church/events](https://thestory.church/events)** to register your child to participate.